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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/531,396	HEIJNA, ROELAND JOHN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Long Nguyen	2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the pre-amendment on 4/14/05 and the authorization for Examiner's Amendment on 9/27/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Peter Zawilski (Reg. No. 43,305) on 9/27/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Abstract

The abstract has been replaced with the following abstract.

--Consistent with an example embodiment, there is a detector for detecting a differential binary signal having a first signal level during a first period and a second signal level during a second period. The detector comprise an offset circuit for producing a slice level offset signal in response to a detected binary signal, an amplitude signal and a slice level signal. The differential binary signal is detected using the first signal level during the first period and using the second signal level during the second period.--

In The Claims

Claim 1, line 5, "the amplitude" has been changed to --an amplitude--.

Claim 1, line 5, "the binary" has been changed to --the differential binary--.

Claim 1, line 7, "the average" has been changed to --an average--.

Claim 1, line 7, "the binary" has been changed to --the differential binary--.

Claim 1, line 8, "the detected" has been changed to --a detected differential--.

Claim 1, line 10, "outputted" has been changed to --detected differential--.

Claim 1, line 12, "binary" has been changed to --differential binary--.

Claim 1, line 13, "wherein said" has been changed to --wherein all of said--.

Claim 1, line 14, "a first slice level" has been changed to --the first signal level--.

Claim 1, line 14, "a second slice level" has been changed to --the second signal level--.

Claim 1, line 15, "all said" has been changed --all of said--.

Claim 3, line 3, "and/or" has been changed to --and--.

Claim 4, line 2, "the binary" has been changed to --the differential binary--.

Claim 4, line 3, "it to the other circuits." has been changed to --the differential binary to the level shift circuit.--.

Claim 5, line 1, "An offset circuit for use in a" has been changed to --A--.

Claim 5, line 2, "the offset" has been changed to --wherein the offset--.

Claim 5, line 2, "comprising:" has been changed to --comprises:--.

Claim 6, line 1, "An offset circuit" has been changed to --A detector--.

Reasons For The Above Changes

The above changes in the claims have been made to overcome the minor informalities and/or indefinite problems in the claims. The abstract is rewritten so that it complies with the U.S. format.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

Claim 1 is allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a detector comprising an amplitude detection signal, a slice level detection circuit, an output circuit, an offset circuit and a level shift circuit with the recited connections and operation set forth therein. In particular, the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest that the detector including, in combination with other limitations, an offset circuit for producing a slice level offset signal in response to the detected differential binary signal, the slice level signal and the amplitude signal, and a level shift circuit coupled to the output circuit for level shifting the differential binary signal in response to the slice level offset signal.

Claims 2-6 are allowed because they depend on claim 1.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Long Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1753. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00am to 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached at (571) 272-1740. The fax number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Long Nguyen', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

LONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER